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REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1952.

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B O R O U G H O F S T O U R B R I D G E

Mayor:

COUNCILLOR E.W.L. TYE, J.P.

Deputy Mayor:

COUNCILLOR E.R.R. TOOBY

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR G.C.P. LYCETT

ALDERMAN E.A. HEYNES, J.P.	COUNCILLOR MISS E.M.D. MOODY.
COUNCILLOR J. ASHFORD.	COUNCILLOR R.G. OSBORNE, J.P.
COUNCILLOR E.J. BROUGHTON, J.P.	COUNCILLOR B. SKELDING, J.P.
COUNCILLOR F.H. COX.	COUNCILLOR E.W.L. TYE, J.P.
COUNCILLOR MISS A. DAVIES.	COUNCILLOR J.H. WOOLDRIDGE.

Medical Officer of Health:

R.L. CORLETT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

F.S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 29.2.52)
D.A. SMYTH, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (from 28.4.52).

Sanitary Inspector, also Inspector under Petroleum and Shops Acts:

★ A.E.K. KENT, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Deputy Sanitary Inspector

★ J.W. BILLINGHAM, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

★ G.H. STONE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

★ D. SARTORIUS, M.S.I.A.

Clerical Staff:

A. POWELL (Chief Clerk)
MISS A.J. TONKS
E.N. JAMES

Rodent Operative:

G.H. CORBETT

★ Certificated Meat and Food Inspectors.

THE ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for 1952

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
The Borough of Stourbridge.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report
for 1952.

The general health of the Borough during the year
continued satisfactory.

The number of deaths declined from 461 to 430, giving
a death rate of 11.4 per thousand, as compared with 11.3 for England and
Wales.

There was a reduction in Cancer mortality from 81 cases
to 69, whilst heart disease was the cause of 138 deaths - one less than in
1951. Both these diseases continue to be the chief causes of death. There
is little doubt that many cases of heart disease are aggravated by the
strains and stresses of modern society.

Deaths from respiratory diseases Influenza, Pneumonia
and Bronchitis numbered 38 - almost half the previous year's mortality
when there were 70.

Diphtheria incidence was again completely absent in the
Borough. Sustained propaganda work by health visitors etc. in the field
of immunisation played its part in this immunity and much credit is due
to them for their efforts.

Although Scarlet Fever cases rose from 45 to 73, there
was no death. There was a welcome decline in Measles notifications from
647 to 183, but Whooping Cough with 124 cases (compared with 41) was more
prevalent. There was no death from either of these infections. One case
of Poliomyelitis was confirmed during the year. The patient made a good
recovery.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee
I would like in conclusion to express my thanks for their never-failing help
and consideration, and to Dr. Smyth, Mr. Kent and the Departmental staff
my thanks are also due for their loyal and willing help.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

R.L. CORLETT

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

						<u>Acres</u>
The Area of the Borough is	...	...	...	...	...	4,214
viz: Stourbridge	...	...	...	...	...	1,920
Lye and Wollescote	...	...	...	...	...	1,025
Pedmore	...	...	...	...	...	1,269
Total Population, estimated at middle of 1952						37,710
Number of inhabited houses, 1931						8,164
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1952						11,572
Number of families or separate occupiers, 1931						8,477
Number of families or separate occupiers, 1952 not available.						
Rateable Value						£207,579
Sum represented by a penny rate						£760

Statistical Memorandum

Population estimated, mid-year 1952	...	...	...	37,710
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	...	14.82
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	...	11.4
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	23.2
Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.397
Death Rate from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.026

The Town is partly residential and partly industrial, and the chief industries are hollow-ware and iron-founding, engineering, the manufacture of Forgings, Spades and Shovels, Chains, Vices, Fireclay products, Skin Rugs, Chamois Leather and Gloves.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year

BIRTHS

Live Births

			M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	277	267	544
Illegitimate	...	...	9	6	15
			<u>286</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>559</u>

Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	14.82
Birth Rate (Adjusted) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.11
Birth Rate for England and Wales	15.3

Still Births

			M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	8	12	20
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	-
			<u>8</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	15.-35
--	-----	-----	--------

DEATHS

Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	243
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	187

430

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	11.4
Death Rate for England and Wales	...	11.3

Maternal Deaths

Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

The maternal Mortality Rates - per 1,000 total (live and still)

Births - for England and Wales were:-

Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	...	...	0.09
Abortion with toxæmia	...	...	0.02
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	...	...	0.21
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	...	...	0.09
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	...	...	0.04
Abortion with sepsis	...	...	0.07
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	...	...	0.20

Deaths of Infants under One year of Age

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	10	2	12
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>13</u>

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of Age

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	7	1	8
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live Births: 23.2

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 27.6 per 1,000 Live Births.

Causes of Death

	M.	F.
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis	10	5
2. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	-	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	2	2
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	13
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	17	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	2	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	34	36
18. Coronary disease, angina	27	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	4
20. Other heart disease	48	42
c/f	<u>156</u>	<u>148</u>

Causes of Death (continued)

				M.	F.
				156	148
			b/f		
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	1	3
22.	Influenza	...	...	-	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	8	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	18	8
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	3	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	7	4
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	2	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	3	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	6	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	24	19
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	4	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	4	-
35.	Suicide	...	...	5	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	1	-
Totals				<u>243</u>	<u>187</u>

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 69
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... -
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) -

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1911

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64
65	66	67	68
69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76
77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88
89	90	91	92
93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100

1911

1911

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Particulars of the Public Health Officers, together with information as to their qualifications, are set out on page 2.

Laboratory Facilities

Examination of clinical material (sputum, swabs etc.) is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester, as are also consumer samples of milk, water and ice-cream. Producer samples of milk and water are examined bacteriologically by the County Laboratory, Worcester, in addition to all chemical samples of food, drugs and water.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

There are four Infant Welfare Centres in the Borough, as under :-

40 New Road, Stourbridge; St. Michaels Church Hall, Glebe Lane, Norton; Community Centre, Wassell Road, Wollescote; Orchard Lane, Lye.

Prevention of Diphtheria

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics were held monthly during the year at the Infant Welfare Centres, as follows :-

Stourbridge	..	..	..	Third Friday in the month (10 am - 12 noon)
Lye	..	..	..	Third Thursday in the month (2pm - 4 pm)
Wollescote	..	..	..	First Thursday in the month (2pm - 4 pm)

...

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supplies

The water supply to the area of the Borough of Stourbridge is controlled by the Stourbridge & District Water Board. The Board was constituted by Act of Parliament in 1909 and is composed of twelve members nominated by the Borough of Stourbridge and the Urban District Councils of Amblecote and Brierley Hill. It operates three pumping stations, two of which are situated in the Urban District of Amblecote and the third in Brierley Hill Urban District.

At each of the pumping stations there are two boreholes; these are tube protected for part of their full depth and generally penetrate into the upper Bunter Sandstone, middle Bunter and Pebble Beds of the Lower Bunter Sandstone. The whole of the supply is pumped into two well defined areas of supply, the high level and the low level. The high level area, the consumption of which averages 400,000 gallons per day is normally supplied by the Coalbournbrook Pumping Station, and a Standby is available at Mill Meadow Station. Additional pumping plant is on order for this Station to satisfy the growing demand and development in the High Level areas. Both these Stations are in Amblecote. A balance tank for this area is available at Wychbury Hill and has a capacity of 350,000 gallons.

It is in the Low Level area of supply that the major part of the Borough of Stourbridge is situated. The consumption in this area is in the region of 1,500,000 gallons per day averaged throughout the year, and is normally supplied now by the Tack Lane Pumping Station. This Station has been in full operation since January 1948, and has provided a bountiful supply of water of a much softer quality than has hitherto been available in the area.

A Duplicate pumping plant for the Tack Lane Station has now been completed and is available for operational use.

Standby plant is available at Coalbournbrook Pumping Station and at Mill Meadow for the supply of the Low Level area.

A balance tank of 500,000 gallons capacity is situated at Doctors' Hill.

Drainage and Sewerage

The main sewers in the Stourbridge area are under the control of Stourbridge Main Drainage Board. The sewers in Lye and Wollescote area are under the control of the Upper Stour Valley Sewerage Board.

The sewage is conveyed to the Whittington sewage farms belonging to these Boards and is treated on the Broad Irrigation principle.

SECTION D.

Housing work is referred to in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Details of the inspections carried out during the year will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

Small Pox

No case was reported during the year.

Typhoid Fever

There was no incidence.

Poliomyelitis

There was one case (in August) notified during the year - a boy of four years of age, who was affected with paralysis in the right leg. Except for a very slight limp, the child made a good recovery.

Scarlet Fever

Seventy three cases were notified, compared with 45 in the previous year. Generally the incidence was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

Food Poisoning

Only one case was notified. Investigation, however, failed to reveal the source of infection.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against Diphtheria was maintained at a satisfactory level during the year.

Some 429 children of pre-school age and 41 of school age completed their primary treatment, whilst 644 children received re-inforcing injections.

Again it is pleasing to record that the Borough was completely free from Diphtheria during the year. For this immunity much credit is due to the health visitors &c. for their sustained propaganda work with parents.

Diphtheria Immunisation (Continued)

The record of immunisation in the Borough since 1935 is as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Alum Precipitated</u>	<u>Toxoid Anti-toxin</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Toxoid</u>	<u>Mixture</u>	
	<u>2 inj.</u>	<u>3 inj.</u>	
1935	.. -	3	3
1936	.. -	-	-
1937	.. 247	46	293
1938	.. 201	23	224
1939	.. 61	35	96
1940	.. -	112	112
1941	.. 65	1397	1462
1942	.. 17	1806	1823
1943	.. 563	71	634
1944	.. 507	-	507
1945	.. 671	-	671
1946	.. 536	-	536
1947	.. 640	-	640
1948	.. 580	-	580
1949	.. 603	-	603
1950	.. 317	-	317
1951	.. 597	-	597
1952	.. 470	-	470
Totals	<u>6075</u>	<u>3493</u>	<u>9568</u>

Of an estimated child population of 8,100, a total of 6,380 children under 15 years of age had been primarily immunised by the end of the year. Of this total 1,738 related to children of pre-school age.

It is estimated that approximately 90% of school children and approximately 60% of pre-school age children have been completely immunised.

Table showing the Incidence and Severity of Diphtheria

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Case</u>	<u>Immunised</u>	<u>Children</u>
	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Mortality</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
			<u>Rate</u>		
1935	110	18	16.3	3	-
1936	33	5	15.1	3	-
1937	81	3	3.7	6	-
1938	49	2	4.08	6	-
1939	40	7	17.5	11	-
1940	71	2	2.81	9	-
1941	87	5	5.74	8	-
1942	21	-	-	2	-
1943	18	1	5.5	5	-
1944	25	2	8.0	9	-
1945	47	3	6.38	11	-
1946	21	1	4.76	7	-
1947	30	2	6.66	11	1
1948	-	-	-	-	-
1949	-	-	-	-	-
1950	1	-	-	1	-
1951	-	-	-	-	-
1952	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>634</u>	<u>51</u>		<u>92</u>	<u>1</u>

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1952

DISEASE	A G E S												Total No. of Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	DEATHS
	Under 1 Year	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	20 -	35 -	45 -	65 and upwards			
Scarlet Fever	-	2	5	11	6	39	6	-	4	-	-	-	73	37	-
Cerebro- Spinal Fever	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	4	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	25	2	-	-	29	-	-
Para-Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	5	6	9	26	5	10
Whooping Cough	10	12	15	23	18	40	2	-	3	-	1	-	124	1	-
Measles	8	22	18	18	29	84	2	1	-	1	-	-	183	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	5	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	20	37	39	53	55	165	11	3	35	10	10	11	449	50	10

NOTE: 47 of the 50 hospital cases were admitted to Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Halesowen.
The original diagnoses of three other cases (2 Scarlet Fever and one Diphtheria) admitted to this hospital for observation were not subsequently confirmed.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1952

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	...	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	...	...	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-
20	...	...	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	...	...	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
35	...	...	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
45	...	...	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	...	...	1	-	-	-	3	2	-	-
65 and upwards			2	-	-	-	4	-	-	1
TOTALS			11	7	1	-	10	5	-	1

The Death Rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis was 0.397 per 1,000 of population as compared with 0.241 in the previous year, while the Death Rate for Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis was 0.026 as compared with 0.08.

SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE REGISTER AT END OF 1952

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
No. of cases on Register, 1st January, 1952	134	82	16	22
No. of cases notified for the first time during the year under the Regulations ...	11	7	1	-
No. of cases first heard of otherwise than by primary notification ...	5	3	-	-
No. of cases removed from Register in a previous Quarter which have been restored to Register during the Quarter ...	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	150	92	17	22
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	21	15	7	4
No. of cases remaining on Register at the end of the year	129	77	10	18

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SANITARY INSPECTOR
for
1952

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of The Borough of Stourbridge.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you a Report
on the work of your Public Health Department for 1952.

I would like to record my appreciation of
the active interest of the Chairman and Members of the Public
Health Committee, and also to express my thanks to Dr. Corlett
for his helpful advice at all times, to the staff of the
Department for their loyal support, and to the Town Clerk,
Mr. A. P. Drury, M.A., and other Officers of the Council for
their co-operation.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

A. E. K. KENT

Sanitary Inspector.

COMPLAINTS

A total of 182 complaints, relating principally to housing defects, were received during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following data is given in accordance with Article 27(18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:-

The number and nature of Inspections made during the year :

Inspections of houses	..	..	..	..	426
Re-inspections and re-visits	..	..	..	..	1659
Inspections under Housing Regulations	..	..	..	..	7
Re-inspections under Housing Regulations	..	..	..	..	17
Visits re Notifiable Diseases	..	..	..	..	82
Slaughter of pigs on private premises	..	..	..	..	363
Dairies and cowsheds	..	..	..	..	30
Factories	..	..	..	..	12
Smoke &c. Nuisances	..	..	..	..	398
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	11
Food Stores and Food Preparation premises	..	..	..	..	116
Shops	..	..	..	..	7
Shops (re Unfit Food)	..	..	..	..	114
Vermin Infestation (excluding Rats and Mice)	..	..	..	..	6
Rats and Mice Infestations	..	..	..	..	209
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	24
Standpipe (Water) Survey	..	..	..	..	181
Shops Register Survey	..	..	..	..	126
Waste Water Closet Survey	..	..	..	..	995
Tents, Vans, Sheds &c	..	..	..	..	38
Refuse Tips	..	..	..	..	185
Pigsties	..	..	..	..	27
Pet Animals Act	..	..	..	..	18
Rag Flock Act	..	..	..	..	3
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	7
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	240

Number of Notices served during the year:

Preliminary Notices	..	..	..	197
Statutory Notices	..	..	..	74

PRELIMINARY NOTICES

Preliminary Intimation Notices sent during the year numbered 197. These, in general, took the form of letters giving particulars of defects and suggestions as to repairs necessary to remedy the defects.

	<u>No. of Notices</u>	<u>No. of Houses or premises affected</u>
General defects of houses	91	143
Defective sanitary conveniences	15	32
Defective drainage	25	44
Defective dustbins	3	3
Factories - defects	5	5
Factories - Smoke Nuisances	4	4
Licensed premises - Sanitary defects	2	2
Food & Drugs Act Contraventions	22	22
Refuse Accumulations	2	2
Piggeries	3	5
Tents, Vans - unlicensed	5	5
Water Supply	6	12
Filthy houses	3	3
Overcrowding	1	1
Shops Act, 1950	2	2
Miscellaneous	8	10
Totals	<u>197</u>	<u>295</u>

STATUTORY NOTICES, 1952

	<u>No. of Notices</u>	<u>No. of Premises affected</u>
<u>Public Health Act, 1936</u>		
Abatement of Nuisances (S.93) ..	32	50
Requisition for Information (S.277)	4	7
Defective Closets (S.44) ..	2	2
" " (S.45) ..	2	2
Smoke Nuisances (S.103)	1	1
Piped Water Supply (S.138) as amended by S.30 of Water Act, 1945 ..	2	8
<u>Housing Act, 1936</u>		
Notices to appear before Council (S.11)	12	10
Demolition Orders (S.11) ..	8	8
Requisition for Information (S.168)	3	5
Unfit Buildings (S.41) ..	3	2
<u>Regulation 68 AA. Defence General Regulations, 1939</u>		
Licences	4	4
<u>Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949 (S.20)</u>		
Notice prohibiting Sale of Milk ..	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	74	100

Result of the Service of Notices:

Preliminary Notices complied with	168
	(including 53 Notices brought forward from 1951)
Statutory Notices complied with	48
	(including 16 Notices brought forward from 1951)

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	426
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1659
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ..	7
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	17

Housing (Continued)

(iii)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.. ..	8
(iv)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	.. ..	232
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :		
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	.. ..	174
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :		
(A)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	..	-
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :		
(a)	By Owners	.. ..	-
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners		-
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :		
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	.. ..	62
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:		
(a)	By Owners	.. ..	41
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners		-
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :-		
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	..	8
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	..	-
(D)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	.. ..	-
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	.. ..	-

Two hundred and fifteen houses were rendered fit after action under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

DEMOLITION ORDERS

Eight Demolition Orders were made during the year in respect of the following houses, all of which were in a state of disrepair bordering on the dangerous:-

No. 5, Vicarage Road, Wollaston
No. 7, Vicarage Road, Wollaston
No. 96, Pedmore Road, Lye
No. 68, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge
No. 70, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge
No. 76, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge
No. 78, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge
No. 7, New Street, Stourbridge.

VERMIN INFESTATION

Effective disinfestations were carried out at 20 premises to eradicate bugs, fleas and other vermin.

In 10 other cases relating to insect pests insecticides were issued and advice given.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

One hundred and twenty nine complaints of rats and mice infestation were received, compared with 91 in 1951.

A summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Operative during the year is set out below.

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>No. of Premises Infested</u>	<u>No. of Treatments</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>Infested by</u>	
				<u>Rats</u>	<u>Mice</u>
Local Authority	8	14	46	17	1
Dwelling Houses	169	170	510	106	63
Business & Industrial					
Premises	31	33	96	12	19
Agricultural Premises	1	1	10	1	-
Totals	<u>209</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>662</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>83</u>

The sewers were also treated twice during the year and a total of 193 manholes dealt with.

It is estimated that approximately 1,065 rats and 1,225 mice were killed.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

No formal action was necessary under this heading.

Eleven persons were granted licences to station and use moveable dwellings for short periods on various sites in the Borough. Where the sites remained satisfactory, the licences were renewed for further periods.

During the year, 38 inspections were made of caravans and sites, all of which were kept in excellent condition.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938

Premises used for :

(a) Sale and/or Manufacture of Ice Cream

Sixteen new premises were registered during the year for the sale of Ice Cream in sealed cartons. There were three changes of occupier. At the end of the year there were 114 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and six for its manufacture and sale.

Fifty one samples were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. The fat content varied between 5.9% and 14.4% and in most of the samples the fat content exceeded 9%.

Of the 34 bacteriological samples, 32 were in provisional grade 1, one in provisional grade 2 and one in provisional grade 3.

(b) Preparation of Preserved Foods

Three additional premises were registered for the preparation or manufacture of Preserved Food, making a total of 14 premises on the Register at the end of the year.

All the premises were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(c) Fish Frying

Twenty one premises are registered for fish frying. During the year there was one change of occupier.

ADULTERATION

Seventy three informal samples were submitted for analysis as follows :-

Milk (Raw)	..	..	..	..	10
Milk (Tuberculin Tested)			..	..	7
Milk (Pasteurised)		..	..	..	16
Milk (Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised)					5
Milk (Sterilised)		..	..	..	1
Milk (Jersey Tuberculin Tested)				..	3
Milk (Channel Island - Pasteurised)					1
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	17
Sausages	..	..	..	..	10
Meat Soup	..	..	..	..	1
Bottled Beer	..	..	..	..	1
Turkey	..	..	..	..	1

Adulteration (Continued)

The Analyst's report on the sample of Meat Soup submitted stated that the interior of the can showed some sign of corrosion but that the quantity of tin found was well below the suggested safe limit of 2 grains per lb.

In the sample of bottled beer were pieces of newspaper, but no organisms of the Salmonella or Food Poisoning Group were present in the contents of the bottle. The attention of the Brewery Company concerned was drawn to the matter and a suitable warning given.

Examination of the sample of Turkey failed to reveal the presence of anything of a deleterious nature.

All other samples were genuine.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The high standard of cleanliness in food premises in the Borough was generally maintained during the year. Food traders have readily co-operated in effecting improvements where these have been desirable, and as a result of the Department's activities the importance of cleanliness and personal hygiene in the handling of food is becoming more appreciated by traders in general.

There were 116 visits made to food premises.

MILK SUPPLIES

There are eleven farms in the Borough producing milk, with an approximate total of 170 cows. Eight of these farms are Producers only, whilst the remaining three retail milk within the Borough.

A total of 24 dairymen - 16 with premises in the Borough and 8 from other Districts - retail milk in this District. Some 94 shops retail bottled milk.

Forty two samples of raw milk were submitted for biological examination and all were negative except two, which showed the presence of *Brucella Abortus*. As the infected milk was produced outside the Borough, an Order under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, was served on the retailer requiring pasteurisation. Further samples proved to be negative following a veterinary investigation and the isolation of the infected cows. The Order was then withdrawn.

BACTERIAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

One hundred and thirty two samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination as under :-

<u>Type of Milk</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Tests Applied</u>	<u>Results of Tests</u>	
			<u>Satis- factory</u>	<u>Unsatis- factory</u>
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	16	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	16 16	- -
Pasteurised ..	60	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	60 60	- -
Sterilised ..	17	Turbidity Test	17	-
Tuberculin Tested	13	Methylene Blue	13	-
Raw Milk ..	21	Methylene Blue	19	2
Jersey T.T. Past:	2	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	2 2	- -
Jersey Tuberculin Tested	2	Methylene Blue	2	-
Channel Island Pasteurised	1	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	1 1	- -

.....

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949
The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regs. 1949

The following licences were in operation at the end of 1952 :-

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation "tuberculin tested" (including four bottling establishments) .. 17

Supplementary licence authorising the use of the special designation "tuberculin tested" 5

Pasteurised Milk

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised" 2

Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised" 14

Supplementary licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised" 8

Sterilised Milk

Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised" 112

Supplementary licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised" 9

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

Three hundred and sixty three home-fed pigs slaughtered on private premises were inspected during the year.

The following items, found to be affected with tuberculosis, were voluntarily destroyed :-

3 heads; 7 mesenteries.

Also condemned were 7 sets hearts & lungs (pleurisy and pericarditis), 1 heart (pericarditis), 1 heart (myocarditis) 1 liver (cirrhosis), 2 sets lungs (congested) and 1 kidney (hydronephrosis).

There is no Government Centralised Slaughterhouse in the Borough.

Meat and Other Food Inspection (Continued)

One hundred and fourteen visits to shops etc. were made in connection with the inspection of foodstuffs, and the following items were condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

			C.	Q.	Lk.
Biscuits	..	..	1	0	23 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cheese	..	..		2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sugar	..	..			27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fish Cakes	..	..			9
Flour	..	..			17
Quaker Oats	..	..			5
Sausage	..	..			13
Butter	..	..			4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dried Figs	..	..			6
Coconut Cakes	..	..	5	0	16
Chocolate Marshmallows	..	..			9
Fish (including 76 lbs. Boned Kippers)	..	..	1	1	6
Bacon	..	..			8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Macaroni	..	..			1
Semolina	..	..			1
Fruit	..	..			29 jars
Pickles	..	..			13 "
Jam	..	..			86 "
Fish Paste	..	..			4 "
Fish	..	..			9 "
Honey	..	..			4 "
Chutney	..	..			2 "
Meat Paste	..	..			2 "
Salad Cream	..	..			3 "
Onions	..	..			2 "
Mayonnaise	..	..			1 "
Stone Ginger	..	..			1 "
Dates	..	..			12 boxes
Whipped Cream	..	..			5 cartons
Cake Flour	..	..			9 pkts.
Pudding Mix	..	..			17 "
Cheese	..	..			13 "
Granulated Gravy	..	..			2 "
Fruit Squash	..	..			60 bottles
Sauce	..	..			2 "
Coffee	..	..			4 "
<u>Canned Foods</u>					
Meat	..	..			368 tins
Fruit	..	..			895 "
Milk	..	..			26 "
Soup	..	..			47 "
Vegetables	..	..			410 "
Jam	..	..			16 "
Coffee	..	..			12 "
Fish	..	..			83 "
Fruit Juice	..	..			13 "
Fish Paste	..	..			2 "

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 twenty licences were renewed during the year.

WATER SAMPLING

Public Supplies

The reports on the public supplies were again excellent. Bacteriological counts were very low, whilst chemical examinations have been constant.

The supplies were equally satisfactory as to quantity. They are not liable to plumbo solvency but samples are examined periodically for lead contamination.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied from the Mains direct to houses in the Borough was 11,544, and by means of standpipes, external to the houses, 27 (approx.)

The following are results of the chemical examination of representative samples of the Town's Water Supply taken during the year :-

	<u>LOW LEVEL</u>	<u>HIGH LEVEL</u>
	No. 1	No. 2
	11 Sept. 1952	28 May, 1952
Physical Characters	Clear, odourless	Clear, odourless
	Deposit None	Deposit None
	pH 7.5	pH 6.8
Chemical Examination (results in parts per 100,000)		
Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C.)	None	None
Solids in Solution (dried at 180°C.)	41	69
Solids in Solution, after ignition	33	63
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	5.8	18
Hardness - Permanent	8	24
Hardness - Temporary	15	14
Hardness - Total	23	38
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0002	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0002	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.77	1.5
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	None	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 27°C.	0.013	0.026
Toxic Metals	None detected	None detected
Fluorine	-	less than 0.01.

Some 74 samples were submitted by this Department for bacteriological analysis, and the following are representative of the results received :-

	Number of Coliform bacilli, MacConkey two days, 37°C. (per 100 ml.)	Faecal Coli (per 100 ml.)
January 23rd ..	Nil	Nil
February 20th ..	Nil	Nil
March 28th ..	Nil	Nil
April 24th ..	Nil	Nil
May 13th ..	Nil	Nil
June 11th ..	Nil	Nil
July 11th ..	Nil	Nil
August 14th ..	Nil	Nil
September 11th ..	Nil	Nil
October 8th ..	Nil	Nil
November 20th ..	Nil	Nil
December 18th ..	Nil	Nil

SWIMMING BATHS

A total of 96 (32 chemical and 64 bacteriological) samples of water from the Corporation Swimming Baths were submitted for examination. The reports proved the water to be of excellent quality during the whole of the time that the Baths were in use.

The supply is taken from the Baths own well and is filtered and chlorinated.

RIVERS POLLUTION

There was close liaison between the Department and the Rivers Board, to whom the powers under the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, were transferred. Since the Department may become aware of pollution, particularly of an industrial nature, before its effects have become apparent in the River (Stour), this liaison is of particular value in applying remedial measures.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

During the year the apparatus for measuring atmospheric pollution was in operation, and in addition to the Smoke Filter, Deposit Gauge and Lead Peroxide instrument, three more Lead Peroxide instruments were provided and placed in different parts of the Borough.

Great improvements have taken place in the reduction of smoke emission from three industrial premises which had been causing some concern.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Public Cleansing is under the control of the Borough Surveyor.

There are four Tips in the Borough, and refuse disposal is carried out by "controlled" tipping mainly at Wollaston and Lye, with a reserve Tip at Lye in case of emergency. Covering material is readily available at both these Tips and no fires have occurred. Systematic treatment with Gammexane Dust have kept cricket infestation down to practically nil.

Refuse is collected weekly. All vehicles used in the collection are "S.D." freighters, with the addition of a small "Scammell" used for market and shop collections.

TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE

I still continue to act as Secretary to this Committee.

During the year four families were allocated Council houses. Also free milk was supplied to patients, and a number of patients received help through a voluntary fund administered by the Committee. Donations to this fund are received from local people and organisations who are interested in the work we are doing.

There are also Clubs and organisations in the Borough which have helped needy cases by supplying them with warm underclothing after discharge from sanatorium and warm sleeping attire prior to entry into sanatorium.

The Committee, which met three times during the year, has amongst its members representatives from the Borough Council, the County Medical Officer's Department, W. V. S., the Nursing Association and your Public Health Department.

I should again like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Members of this Committee for the help they have given me and to the Members of the Housing Lettings Committee of the Council for their promptness in dealing with cases brought to their notice through Mr. Baylis, the Housing Officer.

OUTWORKERS

Twenty two lists were received, containing the names of 30 outworkers, 12 of whom resided outside the Borough.

The premises of outworkers resident in the Borough are satisfactory.

PETROLEUM ACTS

During the year 84 licences were issued as follows :-

60	to store petroleum spirit only
13	" " petroleum spirit and cellulose
2	" " petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium
3	" " carbide of calcium only
3	" " cellulose only
1	" " cellulose and carbide of calcium
2	" " mixture of petroleum spirit.

These licences authorised the storage of 68,570 gallons of petroleum spirit, 5,848 lbs. carbide of calcium, 1,108 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons cellulose and 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons petroleum mixture.

The sum of £52 - 10 - 0 was received in respect of licence fees.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	56	2	1	-
(2) Factories not included in:				
(1) to which Section 7 applies				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	178	6	2	-
(b) Other ...	-	-	-	-
(3) Other premises under the Act (Excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	234	8	3	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp-ector (5)	By H.M. Insp-ector (6)	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of Cleanlin-ess (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	-	2	-
TOTAL	6	6	-	6	-

